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True Mirror of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

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Two Wandoor residents one Billiground Resident go missing; Fishing Dinghy later found on North Sentinel Island shores

Vikramaditya
Sheekha News Service

Port Blair, Jan 16: In a major development the engine dinghy, in which three people had gone for fishing from Wandoor region nearly 25 (See page 6)



Elephant reportedly kills a Bull at Swarajgram village of Diglipur; Farmer demands Compensation



Rabindranath Biswas
Sheekha News Service

Diglipur, January 18: Killing of (See page 2)

Member of Parliament requests Lt. Governor to take up matter with the Ministry of Shipping to give preference to Andaman Ships for Annual Survey in Mainland Dockyards

Port Blair, Jan 18: The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Shri. Kuldeep Rai Sharma called on the Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands yesterday and took up some important issues of these Islands.

Among other crucial issues, he requested the Lt. Governor to take up this matter of shortage of ship for Southern Group of Islands with the Ministry of Shipping to give preference to Andaman Ships for Annual Survey in Mainland Dockyards so that the turnaround (See page 2)

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'Exam Warriors' book authored by Prime Minister of India Released



Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), the Lt Governor, A&N Islands and Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency launched the book "Exam Warriors" detailing how to approach exams with a positive mindset & a solid plan, authored by the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi today at Raj Niwas in the presence of Chief Secretary, Shri Keshav Chandra, Director General of Police, Shri Neeraj Thakur and other Senior officials of Andaman & Nicobar Administration, Andaman & Nicobar Police and Andaman & Nicobar Forest.



Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), the Lt Governor, A&N Islands and Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency reviewed the preparations for the forthcoming Iconic events to be organized to celebrate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav with particular emphasis on 126th Birth Anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on 23rd January, 2023 in A&N Islands.

BJP leaders meet Nitin Gadkari; Raise issues of NH4 and Chatham-Bambooflat Bridge



Port Blair, Jan 18: Mr. Ajoy Bairagi, the State President, BJP, A&N Islands and Mr. Vishal Jolly, National Executive Member, BJP called on Mr. Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport and Highways of India at New Delhi and discussed about the ex-

tremely pathetic condition of NH-4 in North and Middle Andaman District and Construction of Chatham-Bambooflat Bridge. The leaders also submitted a detailed letter along with photographs showing the condition of the NH4 to the Minister.

'Passenger said sorry...': Aviation minister on BJP MP Tejasvi Surya-IndiGo row

Union civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia on Wednesday said the emergency exit door of the IndiGo flight was opened by Tejasvi Surya by mistake. Without naming Tejasvi Surya, the minister confirmed that the passenger who

by mistake opened the emergency exit door leading to a delay in the flight reported the incident himself and said sorry. "I am not to respond to what the opposition is saying. It's important to look

(See page 6)

Elephant reporte... (From page 1)



a bull by an elephant on 16th of January 2023 has been reported from Swarajgram village of Diglipur Tehsil.

As per report, a villager named Mr. Nirmal Roy, R/o Ward No. 04, Swarajgram village said that an elephant had reportedly killed a bull of his on the night of 16th of January 2023. He had six numbers of cattle including the one knocked off by the elephant. On the night of this incident, he had tied his cattle on his homestead land as usual with no notion that that kind of incident would happen, Mr. Roy lamented.

He had purchased this bull which was of a Jersey breed as a seed so as to yield more Jersey cattle and increase the number. But his aspiration was shattered with the mercilessly killing of his bull by the elephant, the

dejected farmer said.

Being an indigent peasant, it was a huge loss to him and hence; with the desire to avail the due compensation from the Forest Department against his bull killing by the elephant, he went to the Office of the DFO, Diglipur Division and waited for a long time yesterday he said.

Talking to Andaman Sheekha, the indigent and harried Nirmal Roy further disclosed that, post-mortem on his dead bull was conducted today i.e. 18/01/2023 for which he had to run from pillar to post.

According to information, the fore-ribs of both sides of the bovine were fractured as the elephant had reportedly trampled the bull.

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Member of...

(From page 1)

timing of the ship after Annual Survey is reduced to minimum and round the year at least 50% of the ships are available for Hut Bay and Nicobar District as shipping is the lifeline of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

He informed the Lt. Governor that there is a shortage of ships for Car Nicobar, Kamorta and Great Nicobar Islands.

He said that at present only MV Bharat Seema is available for Car

Nicobar sailing while only MV Nalanda is available for sailing for Kamorta and Great Nicobar.

The Member of Parliament added that presently there are eight ships for inter-islands sector viz MV Sentinel, MV Chowra, MV Campbell Bay, MV Nalanda, MV Sindhu, MV Kalighat, MV Bharat Seema and MV Dering but out of these eight ships only three ships are presently operational and sadly out of these three op-

erational ships, the MV Dering cannot be sent to Nicobar District.

He pointed out that when ships from Andaman go for Annual Survey, the ships have to wait for several weeks for dry-dock works, which causes delay in repair of ships and due to which Islanders suffer. He added that as summer vacation is nearing there is a need to keep more ships seaworthy for catering to the needs of a large number of passengers.

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Island Team secures second position at National level in Photography contest



Port Blair, Jan 18: The 26th National Youth Festival was held in Hubli, Karnataka from 12th January to 16th January 2023. This program was inaugurated by Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi on 12th January, 2023. The theme of this year's National Youth Festival is "Developed Youth - Developed India". The basic objective is to bring together the youth of the country in an

effort to showcase their talents in various activities covering almost all socio-cultural aspects of life, to provide an opportunity to amateur young artists to express themselves and interact.

In this connection, this year a total of 5 youths from Nehru Yuva Kendra, Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands have participated in the

National Youth Festival, namely Miss S. Varsha, Mr. S. Raj Shree, Mr. B. Madesh participated as trainers of Yoga and Medicine while Mr. Y Sai Kiran and Mr. B. Jagdish Kumar participated in photography contest and sculpture contest under Young Artist Competition and Mr. Y Sai Kiran secured second position at National level in Photography contest.

WITH YOU NGO Hosts Adolescents Girls Health and Hygiene Awareness Program

Port Blair, Jan 18: On January 17, 2023, WITH YOU (NGO) organized an awareness program on adolescent's girl's health and hygiene at the conference hall of Pranab Kanya Sangha. The program aimed to educate and empower young girls on the importance of maintaining good health and hygiene. During the program, Dr. C Rani, Medical Officer (Homeo), CHC, Bambooflatspoke about the importance of daily hygiene and the diseases that can be caused by poor personal hygiene. She also requested the girls to come forward with any questions or doubts they may have about their health.

In addition to the educational program, WITH YOU also distributed free sanitary pads



to the inmates of the home. The President of WITH YOU, Ms. V.K Mariyam Bibi, welcomed the guests and spoke about the purpose of organizing such awareness programs. Mrs. Malti Mondal, President, Pranab Kanya Sangha, expressed her grati-

tude to the NGO for organizing such a meaningful program for the adolescent's girls. The members of WITH YOU spent a quality time with the inmates and are dedicated to continue to educate and empower young girls on the importance of their health and hygiene.

Happy Pongal, Makar Sankranti & Lohri

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Online sources such as Wikipedia not completely dependable: SC

Online sources such as Wikipedia are based on a crowd sourced and user-generated editing model that is not completely dependable and can promote misleading information, the Supreme Court has said. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Vikram Nath said it acknowledged the utility of the platforms that provide free access to knowledge across the globe but also cautioned against using such sources for legal dispute resolution.

"We say so for the reason that these sources, despite being a treasure trove of knowledge, are based on a crowd-sourced and user-generated editing model that is not completely dependable in terms of academic veracity and can promote misleading information as has been noted by this court on previous occasions also," the bench said on Tuesday.



The apex court said courts and adjudicating authorities should endeavour to persuade counsels to rely on more reliable and authentic sources.

The observations came in a judgment in a case regarding the correct classification of imported 'All in One Integrated Desktop Computer' under the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985.

The top court noted that adjudicating authorities, especially the Commissioner of Customs (Appeal) had extensively referred to online

sources such as Wikipedia to support their conclusions. Interestingly, former apex court judge Justice Markandey Katju had referred to Wikipedia for definition of the term "common law marriage" while delivering a judgment in 2010.

Justice Katju had made information available on Wikipedia the basis for formulating a four-point guideline and ruled that live-in relationships must satisfy it to be categorised as a "relationship" in the nature of marriage under the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act, 2005.

Samsung's India unit claims government owes it \$110 million. Govt says...

Co. is struggling to collect manufacturing incentives it considers it's owed by India, highlighting the sometimes complicated nature of such government programs.

The smartphone giant's India unit is seeking just under 9 billion rupees (\$110 million) in incentives for the fiscal year through March 2021, people familiar with the matter said. But the government is only willing to give the South Korean firm 1.65 billion rupees unless it can provide more information and documents to support its claim, the people said, asking not to be identified as the matter isn't public.

The incentives are a key component in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's drive to make India an electronics manufacturing hub. The country in 2020 announced \$6.7 billion in production-linked incentives (PLIs), promising cash to companies on sales of locally made smartphones. That plan has encouraged Samsung to build devices worth billions of dollars in the country, making it the largest exporter of smartphones from the South Asian nation in



the latest fiscal year.

Samsung is in discussions with the government on the incentive payout, a company spokesman said via email, adding that the phone maker is working with various stakeholders to make the PLI program successful. India's technology ministry didn't respond to a request for comment.

The dispute concerns the first year Samsung participated in the incentive program. In contrast, Apple Inc. supplier Foxconn Technology Group's India unit has already won 3.6 billion rupees of benefits for the following fiscal year that ended in March 2022. Claims by Wistron Corp., another key Apple contract manufacturer, are being pro-

cessed.

Unlike contract manufacturers such as Foxconn and Wistron, Samsung both builds and sells its devices to retailers and consumers.

That may have led to disparate accounting assessments of the valuation of each device, the people said. The government awards the cash incentives based on a device's manufacturing cost.

India is Samsung's biggest smartphone market outside of South Korea by volume and crucial to its growth. The company, which operates what it once said was the world's largest phone factory on the outskirts of New Delhi, exported about \$3 billion of the devices from India in the year through March 2022.

Change in Sailing Programme of MV Bharat Seema

Port Blair, Jan 18: Director of shipping service have information for the passengers/general public that due to Administrative reasons the promulgated sailing programme of MV Bharat Seema from Port Blair to Car Nicobar via Little Andaman on 21.01.2023 issued vide this Directorates Supplementary Seva Suchnayein dated 16.01.2023 have been

preponed. Now the vessel will sail for Car Nicobar via Little Andaman on 20.01.2023 (Fri) at 0700 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 21.01.2023 (Sat) at 1600 Hrs from Car Nicobar via Little Andaman. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public from 19.01.2023 onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters.

'India to make new agenda for world': 'Think-20' meet under G20 in Bhopal

A 'Think-20' session on 'inclusive growth' under the G20 summit was held at the Kushabhau Thacker Convention Center on Monday in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. The session was chaired by Elizabeth Sidiropoulos from Institute of International Affairs, South Africa. She said the world today needs global financial architecture, innovation and inclusive growth. Jawaharlal Nehru University Prof. Gulshan Sachdeva said that India will create a new development agenda for the world. Prof. Ashok Khosla of Development Alternatives Institute, Delhi, said that G-20 is the platform through which we can solve terrorism, pollution, lifestyle, climate change, extinction of species, recession etc. Abul Kalam Azad of CVF organisation from Bangladesh said that the world will have to adopt the

'Climate Prosperity Plan', where employment opportunities are created while conserving nature. The scheme fulfils the G-20 concept of one Earth, one family, one future.

Prof. Thomas Pogge of Yale University, USA, appreciated Prime Minister Narendra Modi's global vision, the Indian way of life for the environment, innovation and planning. He stressed the need for creating an 'international green fund' and inclusive finance. David White, senior political adviser, British High Commission in India, congratulated the Government of India for the commendable work done on G-20 issues, both at the official and non-official levels. First Secretary of Geneva, Akindeji Adenipo said that the world will become the voice of India in the resolution of G-20 issues.

Driver detained for romancing on scooter after video goes viral

A 23-year-old man has been arrested by the Lucknow Police on Wednesday after an alleged video of him romancing a girl while driving the scooter in Hazratganj area went viral on Tuesday. Police said the girl in the video is a minor. The cops tracked the scooter, arrested Vicky Sharma, the driver, and slapped cases under IPC Sections 294 and 279. "A video came to light yesterday showing a man and a minor girl sitting on a scooter in an inappropriate manner, under Hazratganj police station in Lucknow. A case was filed under IPC sec 294, 279. Driver Vicky Sharma, 23, was detained and his scooter

has been seized," a Lucknow Police officer said to news agency ANI.

Police launched a hunt for the couple after the video went viral and tracked Vicky through CCTV footage. Cases of rash driving and obscene acts in public have been imposed against him. The viral video was shot from the vehicles behind. As seen in the video, there was medium traffic on the road and on the scooter Vicky was driving, a girl was seen sitting facing Vicky wrapping her legs around him.

The couple was also seen kissing while the video was being made.

LS speaker meets Kenya President Ruto; holds discussion on bilateral relations

Lok Sabha speaker Om Birla met Kenya's President Dr William Samoei Ruto at the Kenyan State House on Tuesday. Birla, who is currently leading an Indian parliamentary delegation to Kenya and Tanzania, congratulated Kenyan President Ruto on assuming the top post in the country. The Lok Sabha also met the Speaker of the Kenyan Senate, Amason Jeffah Kingi and discussed matters related to Parliamentary affairs and their functioning. While expressing hope that India-Kenya bilateral relations will thrive under the new President's leadership, Birla vouched for expansion in avenues like innovations and health between the two countries and also acknowledged how India and Kenya were victims of terrorism and were battling a common fight to mitigate the same. Speaking about India's rapid economic growth and its emergence as the world's fifth largest economy, Birla underlined that India is one of Kenya's most important economic and trade partners.



"He (Om Birla) expressed the desire for exploring new areas of economic co-operation, between the two countries besides traditional sectors like agriculture and mining, in order to further enhance trade and investment between India and Kenya. Birla added that in this direction, there must be a regular exchange of business delegations between the two countries. Birla added that both India and Kenya believe in democratic governance," a Lok Sabha release added.

Speaker Birla further appreciated Ruto's commitment to tackling the climate crisis, which he termed as 'a

shared priority of both countries' while noting, "The International Solar Alliance (ISA) is an important global alliance which is the initiative of India in the direction of climate change mitigation and hoped that Kenya would become a member of this organization soon." The Indian delegation led by Speaker Birla will be in Africa till 21 January after which they will leave for United Republic of Tanzania.

During the visit to Tanzania, apart from meeting their host, the Indian delegation will also call on Philip Mpango, Vice President of Tanzania.

India's Most Fearless 3: Service chiefs recall biggest challenges faced in career

The three service chiefs on Tuesday recounted some of the biggest challenges and difficult situations they had faced in their careers at the launch of the book "India's Most Fearless 3", which features 10 stories of the courage and fearlessness of military personnel. The most gripping of these was Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari's account of piloting a MiG-29 jet without a canopy at a speed of 1.9 Mach or close to two times the speed of sound. The three service chiefs were responding to questions about the most challenging situations they had faced at an event for the launch of the book.

"Every day in the life of men and women in uniform is a challenge...but I think all of us have had some scary moments. The one I can spend a few minutes on is describing my own experience of flying without a canopy in a MiG-29 at an altitude of 12.3 km at a speed of Mach 1.9 when the outside temperature was minus 53 degrees," Chaudhari said. He told the audience that included senior military officers and the families of several personnel recognised for

their bravery that he was conducting an air test on the MiG-29 when the "canopy flew off". The "time of useful consciousness" in such a case – or the time left after an explosive decompression at such an altitude and speed – was only six seconds, he said.

"That was the time available to take a decision. So that was when I put the aircraft in a dive. I was already at Mach 1.9, close to 1,700 kmph. But the idea was to get down at the earliest...I had to get into a foetal position to avoid the wind blast and I brought the aircraft down finally," he added. Admiral R Hari Kumar, the navy chief, spoke about being on tenterhooks when combat jets from the aircraft carrier he was commanding were at the limit of their endurance during an exercise. But he said that every operation out at sea was a challenge and a learning experience. Referring to the tactical exercise, he said it was "really nail-biting" when the jets returned to the aircraft carrier. "When the aircraft came back and landed, they were almost with hardly any fuel left in the tank," he said.

The army chief, Gen

Manoj Pande, spoke about how soldiers are motivated by the ethos of "naam, namak, nishan" or honour, loyalty and identity to make the greatest of sacrifices in the line of duty. "These are the three things which inspire and motivate our soldiers to walk into situations where you are facing death," he said. This attitude is fostered through years of training and facing difficult situations and getting inspired by the tales of heroes such as those who figure in "India's Most Fearless 3", Pande said.

The book, authored by Shiv Aroor and Rahul Singh, the defence correspondent of Hindustan Times, is the third in a series and includes true stories of courage of Indian military personnel. Among them is the story of an Indian Army medic who treated both Indian and Chinese soldiers during the deadly Galwan Valley clash of June 2020, the crew of an Indian Navy destroyer that rescued hundreds from Cyclone Tauktae in the Arabian Sea, and an Indian Air Force pilot who ejected from his jet less than two seconds before it hit the ground.

Sabarimala temple records revenue worth Rs 320 crore: Officials

As the annual pilgrimage season in Sabarimala in Kerala is set to conclude on Friday, revenue at the hill temple recorded an all-time high of ₹320 crore as on January 14, said a senior temple board official.

The earlier highest revenue was in 2018 amounting to ₹260 crore and the present pilgrimage which took place after two years due to Covid pandemic, broke all previous records, statistics with the Travancore Devasom Board (TDB) showed.

"Both footfall and revenue are quite high. Counting of coins is still continuing and a clear picture will emerge in a couple of days. On Makara Sankranti (January 14) day, more than two lakh pilgrims trekked to the temple. Thanks to the help of various departments and pilgrims' co-operation everything went smooth," said TDB president

Ananthagopan. Revenue from Sabarimala feeds many small temples in Travancore region of the state and also pays salaries of the TDB. The TDB president said the main revenue remained "aravana payasam," a black kheer made of rice, jaggery, ghee and cardamom. It comprised more than 60% revenue of the temple, he said. Last month, the high court had intervened and limited daily numbers of pilgrims to 90,000 but it was waived during auspicious days.

The temple had witnessed stampede-like situations a few times during the annual pilgrimage season (mid-November to mid-January). The hill-top shrine is situated in Periyar tiger reserve in Western Ghats mountain ranges in Pathanamthitta district.

Pilgrims from across the country throng the shrine during the annual festival season between November and January.

'India to make new agenda for world': 'Think-20' meet under G20 in Bhopal

A 'Think-20' session on 'inclusive growth' under the G20 summit was held at the Kushabhau Thackre Convention Center on Monday in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. The session was chaired by Elizabeth Sidiropoulos from Institute of International Affairs, South Africa. She said the world today needs global financial architecture, innovation and inclusive growth. Jawaharlal Nehru University Prof. Gulshan Sachdeva said that India will create a new development agenda for the world.

Prof. Ashok Khosla of Development Alternatives Institute, Delhi, said that G-20 is the platform through which we can solve terrorism, pollution, lifestyle, climate change, extinction of species, recession etc. Abul Kalam Azad of CVF organisation from Bangladesh said that the

world will have to adopt the 'Climate Prosperity Plan', where employment opportunities are created while conserving nature. The scheme fulfils the G-20 concept of one Earth, one family, one future.

Prof. Thomas Pogge of Yale University, USA, appreciated Prime Minister Narendra Modi's global vision, the Indian way of life for the environment, innovation and planning. He stressed the need for creating an 'international green fund' and inclusive finance. David White, senior political adviser, British High Commission in India, congratulated the Government of India for the commendable work done on G-20 issues, both at the official and non-official levels.

First Secretary of Geneva, Akindeji Adenipo said that the world will become the voice of India in the resolution of G-20 issues.



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Passenger said...

(From page 2)

at the facts. The door was opened by him by mistake when the flight was on the ground and after all checks, the flight was allowed to take off," Scindia said. The incident of the opening of the emergency gate 'by mistake' by a passenger came to light on Tuesday. IndiGo did not identify the passenger but it was revealed that the passenger was South Bengaluru MP, Tejasvi Surya. In its statement, IndiGo said the incident took place on December 10 on flight 6E 7339 between Chennai to Tiruchirapalli when the passenger accidentally opened the emergency exit while the plane

was on the ground and passengers were boarding the plane. "The passenger immediately apologised for the action. As per SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures), the incident was logged and the aircraft underwent mandatory engineering checks, which led to a delay in the flight's departure," it said. After the incident was reported, the Congress targetted the BJP MP's 'mistake' and questioned why the incident which took place on January 10 came to light almost after a week.

"Tejasvi Surya is an example of what will happen if children playing games are

given the proprietorship. An act of children's mischief by trying to open the emergency exit door of the plane has come to light. Why prank with the lives of passengers?" Karnataka Congress said. The DGCA on Tuesday confirmed that no safety was compromised and the incident was duly reported.

"The crew took note and resultantly, all appropriate airworthiness action such as reinstalling of door, pressurization check etc were carried out before the release of the aircraft for departure. No safety was compromised," the official added.

Two Wandoor...

(From page 1)

days back, has been found on the shores of North Sentinel Island. There is no trace of three people yet, who had gone fishing in that dinghy.

The Pradhan of Wandoor Panchayat, Mr. Adhir Das told Andaman Sheekha Daily that two residents of Wandoor Mr. Shyam Chand Mondal and Mr. Kanuwa had gone for fishing in another Island with one Mr. Sujay Bepari, a resident of Billiground, who was on a visit to Wandoor, his in-law's house. All three people had left Wandoor nearly 25 days ago and within 10 to 15 days they were supposed to return but when they did not return back to Wandoor after two weeks, their family members started to worry.

The Pradhan said that on his request authorities started a search operation and even Coast Guard used helicopters to spot the dinghy but they found no trace.

"Few days back some fishermen crossing

North Sentinel Island told me that they had seen a dinghy-like structure on the rocky shores of the Island but they were not sure as they were far away from the Island. On getting this information I have reported this matter to police and Coast Guard and today the Indian Coast Guard has confirmed that ICG helicopters have spotted the missing dinghy at North Sentinel Island," the Pradhan added.

Sharing a photograph of the dinghy with Andaman Sheekha Daily, which he has obtained from Indian Coast Guard, the Pradhan said that he is worried about the fate of the three people present on the said dinghy. "There is no chance they could go there. I believe due to engine failure the dinghy might have drifted towards North Sentinel Island. There is a need to check whether any clue is found regarding the presence of the missing persons in the

Island," he said.

As it is not confirmed whether the missing people were present on the dinghy when it reached the coast of the North Sentinel Island, there is a need to continue the search operation for the missing persons in nearby islands too, others believe.

As everyone knows, the North Sentinelese Tribes are very hostile to any visitors to the Island and hence this is a serious matter and more search should be conducted around the Island. The Pradhan of Wandoor Village however expressed his disappointment over failure of spotting the missing dinghy by Coast Guard even when three days back all information was given to them. "Only when we pointed out the presence of a dinghy-like structure on the shores of North Sentinel Island, they could locate the boat. The Police Department has, however, given us all assistance," he added.

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